

and undertail coverts were black and the bird had a prominent pale bluish bill. The flight was rather erratic and undulating at about the height of the top of the surrounding vegetation (c. 5 m). The bird circled round and was then joined by a second which followed it in flight. I presumed that the second bird was a female on the basis of the black plumage being replaced by brown but I could not rule out the possibility of it being a juvenile. However, the behaviour of these two birds suggested that the species may breed at this site. This would appear to be the second record for Kenya (see Stevenson 1992) and the first from this QSD.

Magpie Mannikin *Lonchura fringilloides* While walking through overgrown agricultural land close to a stream at Alupe (48A) on 2 September I noticed four Magpie Mannikins with small parties of Bronze Mannikins *L. cucullata*. The birds were seen extremely well at close range in good light. They were noticeably larger than the Bronze, with heavy bluish-horn coloured bills, well defined black pectoral patches on otherwise unmarked white underparts and had no barring on the remiges or uppertail coverts. The call was a distinctive *tee-oo*. Although the birds were feeding in company with Bronze Mannikins they kept together as a group of four and when flushed they flew to a low bush and did not associate with the Bronze. The species is known from several localities in the Bwamba lowlands of Uganda but not from the southeast of that country. This record would appear to be only the second Kenya record (Kitovu Forest, near Taveta, see East African Bird Report 1989). The site is only a few kilometres from the Uganda border, but c. 475 km from the Bwamba lowlands and c. 575 km from the Taveta site of the other recent record.

References

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New records for Uganda and Tanzania along the Rwandan and Burundian borders

Violet-creseted Turaco *Tauraco porphyreolophus* Following Britton (1980), this species was recorded only once in southern Ankole, Uganda. It occurs throughout the year in riparian forest and associated acacia woodland along the Akagera River at Merama Hill on the Rwandan border, and as far east as Kikagati.

Mottled Swift *Apus aequatorialis* There is a small breeding colony of this species on a cliff overhanging the Akagera River at Rusumo Falls in northwestern Tanzania.

Black-collared Barbet *Lybius torquatus* This species is common along the border between Tanzania and Rwanda or Burundi in open riparian forest, in the acacia

woodlands of the middle Akagera Basin, the *Parinari-Pericopsis* woodlands of the Ruvubu Basin and the *miombo* of the Malagarazi Basin. Northwards, it occurs up to Kagitumba and Merama Hill on the Uganda-Rwanda border and up to Kikagati along the Akagera River.

Levaillant's Crested Barbet *Trachyphonus vaillantii* This species also was seen once, in June 1981, at Merama Hill in Uganda.

Little Spotted Woodpecker *Campethera cailliautii* All the birds of this species seen at Kagitumba and Merama Hill in the riparian forest strips along the Akagera River belong to the race *permista*. Following Britton (1980), this race was known from Uganda at only Bwamba Forest.

Bennett's Woodpecker *Campethera bennettii* This species is one of the commonest woodpeckers in eastern Rwanda (Akagera NP) and also occurs throughout the year in dense acacia woodlands near Merama Hill in southernmost Uganda. All birds seen in Rwanda and southern Uganda are typical Bennett's according to plumage, but their voice is quite similar to that of the Nubian Woodpecker *C. nubica*, and does not sound like that of Bennett's Woodpeckers from farther south, in Zimbabwe, for example. Clearly, the contact between these two woodpeckers needs more study, especially since Britton (1980) gives the Nubian Woodpecker for as far south as Ngara in northwestern Tanzania.

Mountain Illadopsis *Trichastoma pyrropterum* This species also occurs in the riparian forest strips along the Akagera River at Merama Hill.

White-headed Black Chat *Thamnolea arnoti* A few birds of this species were seen at several occasions in acacia woodlands along the Akagera River at Merama Hill, southern Uganda. In July 1989 a pair was feeding at a nest in a customs building.

White-winged Warbler *Bradypterus carpalis* This species inhabits not only the swamps of the middle Akagera Basin in northwestern Tanzania (Britton 1980) but also those of the Ruvubu Valley and Malagarazi Basin along the Burundi border.

Papyrus Yellow Warbler *Chloropeta gracilirostris* Following Britton (1980), this species is unknown in Tanzania. Indeed it was never recorded in the extensive and apparently suitable middle Akagera swamps on the Rwanda-Tanzania border, but it occurs in the papyrus swamps of the Ruvubu River, from the Burundi border up to Rusumo Falls.

Papyrus Gonolek *Laniarius mufumbiri* As for the previous species, this gonolek occurs not only in the extensive swamps of the middle Akagera Basin in northwestern Tanzania, but also along the Ruvubu River and in the Malagarazi Basin along the Burundi border to about 4°S.

Reference

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